EMS & Trauma Systems Contact information:
www.healthoregon.org/ems | 971-673-0520 | EMS.TRAUMA@dhsoha.state.or.us

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General EMS & Trauma Systems Program Update

The EMS program started the EMR License, Transporting EMS Agency and Ambulance License renewals April 1 and will continue to June 30.

Elizabeth Heckathorn, OHA EMS and Trauma System Program Manager, retired May 31st, 2022. We appreciate the many years that Liz contributed to the Oregon EMS system and especially our program. OHA leadership is working on a national recruitment process for a new program manager and will continue to communicate with our public partners as we support Oregon EMS and Trauma Systems.

We are pleased to announce two new EMS and Trauma System Administrative Staff members.
Kimberley Aubrey is assigned to the EMS and Professional Standards Unit staff and Yesenia Rosario-Palma is assigned to the Trauma System staff.

Professional Standards Unit (PSU)

Projects:
- Working with the EMS team to revise initial and renewal EMS Provider applications for improved design, function and value
- Provide insight on current rule revision and new rule development projects
  - Initial education
  - Licensure of military spouse or domestic partner
  - Ambulance service and vehicle licensure requirements
  - Ambulance infection control
- Rebecca Long serves on the Department of Public Safety, Standards, and Training (DPSST) Telecommunications Policy Committee and attends quarterly meetings
- Justin Hardwick represents the PSU on quarterly National Association of EMS Officials (NASEMSO) meetings

EMR Renewal Application Trends
In even numbered years, Emergency Medical Responders are required to renew their license during April, May or June. In a typical year, the Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems office receives about 1100 renewal applications throughout that period, and issues about 1069 licenses. This year the volume of applications was significantly lower, at just 934 applications received and 879 licenses issued in the months of April, May and June. There were 472 EMRs that were eligible to renew that instead allowed their licenses to expire.
Ambulance and Services Licensing

**New Ambulance Services:**
Initial Service License Applications received: 1
Initial Service Licenses issued: 1

**New Ambulance Vehicles:**
Initial License Applications received: 126
Initial Licenses issued: 111

**Ambulance Service Renewal:**
Renewal Service License Applications received: 126
Renewal Service Licenses issued: 111

**Ambulance Vehicle Renewal:**
Renewal License Applications received: 123
Renewal Licenses issued: 87

**Emergency Medical Responder Renewal**
- Applications issued: 879
- Applications initiated: 934
- Number of licenses expired: 472

**Emergency Initial Provisional License (EIPL)**
- EIPL Applications: 20

**EMS Initial License Issued**

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<tr>
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**Ambulance Service Surveys**
Ambulance service surveys resume in late June 2022 starting in Jefferson County.

**Variance/Waiver**
Variance/Waiver requests received: 4
Variance/Waiver requests approved: 4
Number of ambulance services currently utilizing the rural staffing rule OAR 333-255-0070 (4): 8
County location: Klamath, Lake, Sherman, Tillamook, and Umatilla.

- Investigations opened: 37
- Investigations closed: 50
- Investigations pending: 114
- Licensees currently on probation: 1
- Licensees reinstated: 15
- Continuing education audits completed: 15

Actions:
- Letter of concern issued: 25
- No action taken/Background cleared for approval: 3
- License expired under investigation: 4
- Application withdrawn: 2
- Closed inactive: 14
- Corrective action: 1

- Number of licenses expired: 472
Application and Form Updates:
The Ambulance Initial Application is under revision to provide an improved design and functionality. The new version will include rule revision updates regarding ambulance remount standards that go into effect July 1, 2022.

Renewal Reminder:
Annual service and vehicle renewal applications will be available April 1, 2022. To ensure you receive your service and vehicle licenses before July 1, 2022, applications must be submitted by May 30, 2022.

Pro Tips for Application Success:
- New initial ambulances are required be built to the CAAS, v.2.0 or NFPA 1917, 2019 construction criteria.
- If the CAAS manufacturer sticker has an “N” in the section that says “Vehicle Fully Certified to GVS STD (Y/N)?” that means the ambulance vehicle has exceptions.
- Exceptions to the construction criteria must be uploaded into the Ambulance Initial Application to prevent any delays in the licensing process.
- If the ambulance vehicle has exceptions to the standard, when completing the Ambulance Initial Application, choose “yes” to the question “Are there any CAAS/NFPA exceptions on the certification documents above?” and upload the exception documents.
- Exceptions are reviewed by OHA and may require additional processing time.

To contact the Professional Standards Unit email: ems.psu@state.or.us

Education & Examinations

Initial Course Applications Approved:
- EMR: 14
College course applications: 1 school pending for the 2022-23 academic year

Exams conducted in the second quarter:
- EMT-Intermediate: 1
- Paramedic: 1
- 4 exams are scheduled for the third quarter

Licensing officer activity:
- Initial applications approved: 3
- Renewal applications approved: 1

Projects:
- Initial education rules: coordinating the review with staff of the Higher Education Coordination Commission (HECC) staff and state accreditation team; HECC accreditation rules will be updated as well
- Continued review of the state EMT licensure exam options: a competency framework is being explored with the colleges.

To contact the Education and Examinations Representative email: EMS.TRAUMA@dhsoha.state.or.us
Committee Information

All meetings have moved to a virtual platform. Information on how to join a meeting can be found [HERE](#).

Open committee positions:
- EMS for Children Committee:
  - Tribal EMS representative
  - Behavioral Health Representative
  - Hospital Trauma Coordinator
- EMS Committee:
  - No vacant positions
- State Trauma Advisory Board:
  - Level 3 Emergency Department Physician
  - Urban Area Hospital Administrator
  - Urban Area EMS Provider

To apply click [HERE](#).

2022 State Meeting Dates:
January 20, 21 | April 6, 7, 8 | July 6, 7, 8 | October 12, 13, 14
To contact the Committee Representative email:
EMS.TRAUMA@dhsoha.state.or.us

Oregon Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC)

EMS Equipment Distribution
The Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 333-255-0072, Ground Ambulance Vehicle Equipment Requirements, was amended and Ambulance Services must comply with the amended OAR by July 1, 2022. The Oregon EMSC Program was granted $25,000 by the Oregon Health Security, Preparedness and Response Program to support need-based EMS equipment distribution to rural and frontier Ambulance Services. The equipment distribution does not cover all aspects of the amended OAR but is meant to assist Ambulance Services that may not otherwise be able to afford the equipment.
The application period was May 5-22, 2022. Equipment will be distributed to the 15 Ambulance Services that applied. Equipment includes obstetrical kits, hemostatic dressings, commercially manufactured arterial tourniquets, soft restraints, and nonflammable reflective roadside warning devices.

Pediatric Readiness Program
The May 19th education session, Pediatric Trauma, is available [here](#). There are 27 recorded education sessions available on the website. Upcoming: August 11th Pediatric DKA; November 10th Mental Health and Collaborative Problem-Solving. CME/CE is available for live and recorded sessions.
HERO Kids Registry
Health Emergency Ready Oregon (HERO) Kids is a collaborative project between the Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs and Oregon EMSC. HERO Kids will provide real-time information to EMS and ED providers. The registry will be open to all Oregon children and launches in late 2022. For more information, visit www.herokidsregistry.org.

Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Advisory Committee
The EMSC Program is recruiting to fill the following EMSC Advisory Committee positions: Behavioral Health representative, Hospital Trauma Coordinator and Tribal EMS representative. Please click HERE to apply.

To contact the EMSC Program Manager email:
EMS.TRAUMA@dhsoha.state.or.us

Trauma Program
Oregon has been experiencing an unprecedented health care surge. OHA EMS & Trauma Systems responded to trauma programs requesting to postpone currently scheduled trauma surveys. Awards of certification will be extended for the interim period to ensure that patient care is the priority of the Trauma System. At this time, all scheduled trauma recertification surveys are being conducted virtually.

For the first quarter of 2022, there were no virtual surveys scheduled.
For the second quarter of 2022, three virtual surveys were completed. These surveys were originally scheduled for 2020 and postponed due to the pandemic. These were St. Charles Madras, St. Charles Prineville, and St. Charles Bend. Harney District Hospital will take place late in the second quarter of 2022.
Surveys that would have been scheduled for 2021 and are postponed and rescheduled for 2022 are Pioneer Memorial Hospital and Nursing Facility, Adventist Health Tillamook, CHI St. Anthony Hospital, Wallowa Memorial Hospital, Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital, Good Shepherd Healthcare System, CHI Mercy Health Mercy Medical Center, Bay Area Hospital, Mid-Columbia Medical Center, Coquille Valley Hospital, and Asante Three Rivers Medical Center.
Surveys due and scheduled for review in 2022 are St. Alphonsus Medical Center Baker City.
Facilities not yet scheduled but due for review are Grande Ronde Hospital, Lower Umpqua Hospital and Sutter Coast Hospital.

To contact the Trauma Program Coordinator email:
EMS.TRAUMA@dhsoha.state.or.us
Quality Improvement
The License Management System Quality Improvement project to address past challenges, update and modernize the licensing process is ongoing. This project involves reviewing and overhauling the application documents for each license level. Currently, this quality improvement project is 57% complete and ~ 1 year ahead of schedule: Project timeline documentation

Due to the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) renewal cycle, work on the LMS applications was paused to allow the Professional Standards Unit (PSU) to process license renewal applications. Going forward, the LMS REVAMP project will focus on all licenses relevant to a license level on a monthly basis (e.g. EMT licenses addressed in July 2022, etc.).

NEMSIS 3.5
The Oregon EMS & Trauma Data Team continue to prepare for the NEMSIS 3.5 implementation. The NEMSIS 3.5 transition will require coordinated effort between the Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems program, EMS agencies, and ePCR vendors. NEMSIS 3.5 state resources are under development. The data team has begun to reach out to vendors and agencies to prepare for the transition. Resources are available for more information about NEMSIS 3.5 and the Oregon implementation plan:
Fact Sheet
Webinar
NEMSIS website

Data Dictionary Development
The Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems Data Team has been working on documentation for our state data sets. These data dictionaries will provide resources for data entry, report writing, the data request process and as a tool for ongoing analytics projects. The essential resources for the Oregon Trauma Registry data standard have been created and published through the SmartSheet app.
An interactive ebook version of the Trauma data dictionary is in development. EMS data dictionary resources have been developed and are being deployed as a SmartSheet application.

Data Strategic Plan
Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems Program continues to work on the overhaul of the data strategic plan. The EMS & Trauma Data Team has summarized information collected through interviews with community partners, and is currently working to revise objectives, goals and metrics to guide our strategic direction over the next three years.
ODOT iPad Grant Project
57 iPads have been received, and scoring has occurred. 24 agencies will be receiving iPads. Notification emails, award letters, and user agreements have been updated and are scheduled to be disseminated by Friday, June 10, 2022. Processes have been developed for tracking the progress of deployment at each phase while maintaining a strong audit trail of activities.

Reporting
The Oregon EMS & Trauma Data Team has been engaged in reporting work around the following:

- A student worker from OHSU, with support from the data team, is working to develop documentation and code resources for Trauma performance metrics.
- A workgroup has met over the last three quarters to develop and refine performance metrics related to stroke which are reported to the Stroke Committee.
- The data team is developing a tool for monthly monitoring of patient weight documentation in the EMS system to support the EMS for Children Committee’s work on documentation of weight in kilograms.
- The data team is refining a report to support public health work around heat events in preparation for the summer.

Training
TraumaOne training for trauma registrars is underway with five virtual sessions scheduled from May through July 2022. Sessions will be recorded and made available to all Oregon web TraumaOne users.

Data Requests and Partnerships
In the second quarter of 2022 the Oregon EMS & Trauma Data Team provided data to support several projects from other sections of the OHA, state agencies, and outside research organizations:

- EMS & Trauma continues to work with the Injury and Violence Prevention Program to develop case definitions for EMS incidents related to suicidal ideation and attempts. Review and coding of records for this project are now complete and case definition development is underway.
- An updated NEMSIS 3 data set has been pulled for Comagine Health as part of an ongoing research project on drug overdose.
- Oregon EMS data have been provided to the Maine Rural Health Research Center for a national project focused on identifying ambulance deserts.
- New data requests have been received and are under review from Multnomah County EMS and OHSU.

To contact the EMS and Trauma Systems Data team email: EMS.Trauma.Data.Team@dhsoha.state.or.us
Ambulance Service Area (ASA) Review

In accordance with OAR 333-260-0020(7), the OHA EMS & Trauma Systems Program reviews county Ambulance Service Area (ASA) plans for compliance with state regulations at least once every five years. The OHA EMS & Trauma Systems Program is working with counties to ensure all ASA plans have been determined to be compliant with state rules within the past five years. Counties with outdated approvals are being prioritized for review.

**Currently Under OHA Review:**
- Gilliam
- Klamath
- Morrow
- Washington

**Counties with approved plans:**
- Baker
- Clatsop
- Malheur
- Multnomah
- Umatilla
- Wasco

**Returned with Requested Revisions:**
- Crook
- Harney
- Hood River
- Josephine
- Lane
- Linn
- Marion
- Wallowa

**Counties prioritized for review:**
- Benton
- Clackamas
- Columbia
- Coos
- Curry
- Deschutes
- Douglas
- Grant
- Jackson
- Jefferson
- Lake
- Lincoln
- Polk
- Sherman
- Tillamook
- Union

**Medical Director | Supervising Physician Application Approval**

- Christopher Van Tilburg MD (MD 20269): Hood River Crag Rats Mountain Rescue (1412)
- Kenneth Hahn MD (MD27569): Redmond Fire & Rescue (0905)
- Brian Clothier MD (MD28407): Blackwoods Emergency Resources (2065)
- James Woods MD (MD18308): Coos County Airport Fire (0635)
- Ryan Petersen, MD (MD125955): Shaniko Volunteer Fire Department (3654)
The 2021 Oregon CARES National Registry report is published and available. Collaboration between GEMT and CARES participants is ongoing and more information is available on their website.

American Heart Association Get With The Guidelines – Stroke

The OHA EMS & Trauma Systems program has created an easy-to-use form to help support the goal of identifying the Oregon hospitals with Stroke Certification, and whether they are meeting the requirements for stroke management and stroke data submission. The OHA EMS & Trauma Systems program is using the same form system for Oregon Trauma Hospitals and has seen positive results.

If you are the Stroke Program Manager for your hospital, please take a moment to complete the Stroke Hospital Contact form.
When you click on the link, identify your hospital in the drop-down box and enter your work email address. You will receive an email with an update request.

To contact the Oregon CARES or Stroke Coordinator email:
EMS.TRAUMA@dhsoha.state.or.us

Rule and Legislation Update

Legislation:
HB 2359 – Health Care Interpreters
The Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI) has filed permanent administrative rules for the implementation of HB 2359 (2021 Oregon Laws Chapter 453), relating to health care interpreters. These permanent rules are effective July 1, 2022, and include language that specifies that nothing in the rules is meant to prevent an EMS provider from providing prehospital care, as defined in ORS 682.025, nor is nothing meant to delay care in an emergency to an individual who has limited English proficiency, who communicates in signed language, or who prefers to communicate in a language other than English. These permanent administrative